

his notes and excellent literature which has served as a basis in the preparation of this note.

GENERAL EDUCATION CENTRE,
M. S. UNIVERSITY OF BARODA,
BARODA 2,
June 18, 1973.

G. M. OZA

28. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF VEGETATIVE SHOOTS AT THE CROWN AREA IN *COCOS NUCIFERA* L.

During a recent study tour along the Karnataka (Mysore) coast we saw a coconut palm of unusual interest in the vicinity of the sea-shore at Surathkal, 3 Km away from Mangalore city. A striking feature of this palm is the periodic production of sixty to hundred vegetative shoots in two to three rows in place of spadices. The tree is about 10 metres high and looked normal with a well developed crown and was growing on the raised bund of a cultivated land. The owner of the tree reported that this palm at no time bore fertile spadices but produced vigorously growing vegetative shoots at regular intervals.

Such vegetative shoots resembling bulbils at the crown of many palms have been reported by various authors (Davis & Basu 1969).¹

The local people called this plant in Kannada language as 'gandu gida' (Male tree) even though they had not seen the plant in flower. It appears that attempts were made to grow the vegetative shoots in the nearby villages. But our attempts to grow them in the Indian Botanic garden, Sibpur were not successful.

ECOLOGY SECTION,
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
76, ACHARYA JAGADISH BOSE ROAD,
CALCUTTA 14,
June 4, 1973.

T. ANANDA RAO
G. C. DAS

¹ DAVIS, T. A. & BASU, S. K. (1969): Two cases of Bulbil bearing *Borassus flabellifer* L. *J. Indian bot. Soc.* 48:198-201.